

IN THE CLAIMS:

[Please cancel claims 1-13 and 16-23.]

Please amend the claims as follows:

14. (Amended) A failure detection system for an energy storage cell of a multiple energy storage cell pack, the energy storage cell having a cell voltage V_{cell} , the system comprising: an electrical circuit connected to the energy storage cell, and indicating a cell active condition when a cell voltage V_{cell} is above a threshold active voltage V_{active} , and indicating a cell inactive condition when the cell voltage V_{cell} drops below the threshold active voltage V_{active} [The system of claim 12, wherein the circuit includes] and the circuit including a voltage threshold device to set the [threshold]threshold active voltage V_{active} .

15. (Recited) The system of claim 14, wherein the voltage threshold device is a zener diode.

24. (Amended) An active voltage limiting and failure detection system for an energy storage cell of a multiple energy storage cell pack, the energy storage cell having a cell voltage V_{cell} , the system comprising: a first electrical circuit connected to and powered by the energy storage cell, the first electrical circuit [adapted to draw]drawing a significant amount of power from the energy storage cell when a cell voltage V_{cell} reaches a maximum voltage V_{max} to reduce the cell voltage V_{cell} , to stop drawing the significant amount of power to reduce the cell voltage V_{cell} when the cell voltage V_{cell} reaches a minimum voltage V_{min} , and to draw no power when the cell voltage V_{cell} reaches a shutdown voltage $V_{shutdown}$; and a second electrical circuit connected to the energy storage cell and [adapted to indicate]indicating a cell active condition when the cell voltage V_{cell} is above a [threshold]threshold active voltage V_{active} , and to indicate a cell inactive condition when the cell voltage V_{cell} drops below the [threshold]threshold active voltage V_{active} .

25. (Amended) An active voltage limiting and failure detection system for an energy storage cell of a multiple energy storage cell pack, the energy storage cell having a cell voltage V_{cell} , the system comprising: a first electrical circuit connected to and powered by the energy storage cell, the first electrical circuit includes means for drawing a significant amount of power from the energy storage cell when a cell voltage V_{cell} reaches a maximum voltage V_{max} to reduce the cell voltage V_{cell} , means for stopping the drawing of the significant amount of power to reduce the cell voltage V_{cell} when the cell voltage V_{cell} reaches a minimum voltage V_{min} , and means for drawing no power when the cell voltage V_{cell} reaches a shutdown voltage $V_{shutdown}$; and a second electrical circuit connected to the energy storage cell and including means for indicating a cell active condition when the cell voltage V_{cell} is above a [threshold]threshold active voltage V_{active} , and means for indicating a cell inactive condition when the cell voltage V_{cell} drops below the [threshold]threshold active voltage V_{active} .